

**APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT**  
**Declaration and Power of Attorney**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**AIR-ASSISTED, TOPPER/SHREDDER FOR SUGAR CANE HARVESTER**

the specification (including at least one claim) and drawing(s) (if any) of which are attached hereto.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability of this application in accordance with §1.56 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

I do not know and do not believe that this invention (i) was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof, or (ii) was patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof, or (iii) was patented or described in any printed publication more than one year prior to the present application, or (iv) was in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the present application, or (v) has been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of the present application in any foreign country on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the present application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under §119 and/or §365 of Title 35 of the United States Code of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate indicated below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

Country/ International	Application Number	Filing Date	Priority Claimed (Yes or No)
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I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) to prosecute the present application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file, prosecute and to transact all business in connection with all foreign and international applications directed to the invention:

**Jimmie R. Oaks**  
**Reg. No. 24,987**

Address all correspondence and telephone calls to:

**Jimmie R. Oaks**  
**Patent Department**  
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**Moline, IL 61265-8098**  
**(309) 765-4392**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signature	_____
Inventor	Michael Lynn Hinds
Date of signature	_____
Citizenship	USA
Residence	Thibodaux, LA
Post Office address	970 Bayou Road Thibodaux, LA 70301

### Assignment

The entire right, title and interest in and to this application and all subject matter disclosed and/or claimed therein, including any and all divisions, continuations, reissues, etc., thereof are, effective as of the date of execution of this application, assigned, transferred, sold and set over by the applicant(s) named herein to Deere & Company, a Delaware corporation having offices at Moline, Illinois 61265, U.S.A., together with all rights to file, and to claim priorities in connection with, corresponding patent applications in any and all foreign countries in the name of Deere & Company or otherwise.